

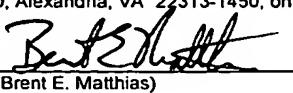


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 9, 2004

Signature:


(Brent E. Matthias)

Attorney Docket No.: 06005/38229B
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kenneth W. Junk, et al.

Application No.: 10/828,706

Filed: April 21, 2004

Art Unit: 2125

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR
OPERATING AND PERFORMING
DIAGNOSTICS IN A CONTROL LOOP OF
A CONTROL VALVE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the U.S. filing date (37 CFR 1.97(b)(1)).

Those patents or publications which are marked with a double asterisk (**) in the attached form PTO/SB/08 (facsimile) are not supplied because they were previously submitted to the Office in prior application Nos. 10/139,008, filed May 3, 2002, and 10/644,207, filed August 20, 2003, and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Applicants believe that no fee is due at this time. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 06005/38229B. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: July 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Brent E. Matthias

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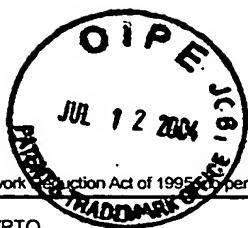
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Attorney for Applicants



Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/828,706
				Filing Date	April 21, 2004
				Inventors	Junk et al.
				Art Unit	2125
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	
06005/38229B					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)		
**	6,131,609		10-17-2000	Metso et al.
**	4,061,155		12-06-1977	Sopha
**	5,806,565		09-15-1998	Kadlicko
**	US 2002/0040284 A1		04-04-2002	Junk
**	4,274,438		06-23-1981	La Coste
**	4,976,546		12-11-1990	Beattie
**	5,272,647		12-21-1993	Hayes
**	5,425,270		06-20-1995	McDonald et al.
**	5,966,679		10-12-1999	Snowbarger et al.
**	6,128,541		10-03-2000	Junk
**	6,192,321 B1		02-20-2001	Grumstrup et al.
**	6,408,735 B1		06-25-2002	Harvey et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)		
**	EP 0462432 A2		12-27-1991	Beatty et al.

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²CITE NO.: Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an double asterisk (**) next to the Cite No. are not supplied because they were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. ³Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ⁴See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁵Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁶For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/828,706
				Filing Date	April 21, 2004
				Inventors	Junk et al.
				Art Unit	2125
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	06005/38229B

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
	**	Beatty K: "Intelligent Valve Based Process Sensing and Control," Advances in Instrumentation and Control, Instrument Society of America, Research Triangle Park, U.S.. vol. 46, no. Part 2, 1991, pages 1175-1185XP000347557, Issue No. 1054-0032.			
	**	A copy of a partial International Search Report for International application No. PCT/US03/03695, dated July 2, 2003, 7 pages.			
	**	A copy of International Search Report for International Patent Application No. PCT/US03/03695, dated September 9, 2003, 10 pages.			

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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